GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4828
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
COMPACT AUTOMATIC WEATHER STATIONS
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Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation has developed compact automatic weather stations;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the cost of the project and their installation;

(c) whether the accuracy of weather forecasts has been verified;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the benefits likely to be derived therefrom in comparison to previous system?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a)&(b) The ISRO−Industry jointly developed Automatic Weather Station (AWS), is capable of collecting weather related data such as surface pressure, temperature, humidity, rainfall, wind speed etc., and transmitting them through data relay transponders of INSAT/KALPANA Satellites. The cost of an AWS system is estimated to be around Rs.2 lakhs and could vary depending on the installation cost at various sites.

(c) & (d) The level of accuracy of various meteorological parameters measured from the Automatic Weather Stations meets the user requirements.

(e) Compared to the existing sparse distribution of weather stations, the planned deployment of AWS throughout the country with real-time connectivity to central modeling facility will provide improved inputs to weather models.